



September 15, 1999

DTE Energy Subsidiary to Develop Solar Energy in California PowerPark

PLEASANTON, Calif., Sept. 13 -- The largest commercial rooftop solar-power project in North and South America will be unveiled here this fall, the result of an innovative public/private sector partnership focused on cost-effective technologies to achieve environmental stewardship goals.

The Pleasanton PowerPark by INTERGY LLC received unanimous approval from city leaders, who cited the environmental benefits of renewable energy and locational benefits of in-city energy generation to reinforce the local electric utility grid as key factors in their decision.

Edison Development Corp., a subsidiary of Detroit-based DTE Energy Co. (NYSE: DTE - news), a diversified energy company, will lead a partnership to energize with solar power three 30,000-square-foot industrial buildings. The \$2.7 million project will install 340 kilowatts-AC (kW) of solar energy in the first phase of the Pleasanton PowerPark.

Napa, Calif.-based INTERGY is developing a unique energy infrastructure within the 250,000-square-foot industrial park. The development is designed as a distributed energy resource, an alternative to centralized power plants. It incorporates a blend of various generation, reliability, power quality, energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies to provide value-added benefits to the occupants at lower-than-grid prices for cleaner-than-grid power.

The project also will involve the California Energy Commission, U.S. Department of Energy, the Utility PhotoVoltaic Group (UPVG), BP Solarex of Fairfield, Calif., PowerLight Corp. of Berkeley, Calif., and Panattoni Development Corp. of Sacramento, Calif., a national leader in industrial build-to-suit facilities that total about 10 million square feet in new builds each year.

The California Energy Commission is contributing \$1 million through its Renewables Buy-Down program, while \$740,000 in U.S. Department of Energy funds is being provided to the project through the UPVG TEAM-UP program. ``This is a special project

which implements many of the General Plan policies related to energy production," said Brian Swift, Pleasanton director of Planning and Community Development.

DTE Energy, through its principal subsidiary, Detroit Edison, has been involved with solar power demonstration projects for the last two decades, and has two solar installations that together provide about 54 kW of electricity for its customers in Southeastern Michigan. DTE Energy's portfolio of renewable energy businesses also includes DTE Biomass, which develops landfill gas projects, and Plug Power LLC, a leading fuel cell manufacturer.

"DTE Energy has long recognized the need for affordable renewable energy," said Larry G. Garberding, president of Edison Development Corp. "We're excited to be a part of this project -- one of the largest photovoltaic installations in the world -- and to continue to contribute to the commercialization of renewable energy sources."

Design work and construction of the industrial building will begin this fall, with building occupancy expected late this year or early 2000. Photovoltaic panels, part of the DTE SolarCurrents(TM) System, will be installed on the building's roof as part of the 25-year development agreement.

"Solar energy is the key to satisfying our environmental stewardship goals of utilizing renewable energy and the cleanest technology available from our on-site energy production," said Kevin Best, managing director of INTERGY, which will lease the solar power system and distribute energy throughout the park. "This strategic partnership will provide economic energy choices and reliability solutions to our commercial occupants, enhance the performance of the local grid and will support sustainable development goals of the community."